NIST Cloud Computing Security Workgroup (NCC-SWG) Meeting Minutes

Time: 05/04/2011 2:00-3:00 PM EST

Online at http://webconf.soaphub.org/conf/room/cc security

NCC-SWG's TWIKI page is at http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-cloud-computing/bin/view/CloudComputing/CloudSecurity

Threads of discussions

- 1. Discuss the feedback from the participant for the new directions of the Security Work Group.
 - Coordinate and work with CSA, FedRAMP and NIST 800-53.
 - a) NIST 800-144 (draft) is not a document listing controls. Its documents highlighting issues and offer suggestions and guidance. We should list 800-144 as well. So is NIST 800-125 (draft).
 - Short term deliverable produce document gives a roadmap for security that feeds in to NIST technology roadmap. It is due in September.
 - Cloud Security Profiles for Federal Industry. Maybe not have the time to generate best practices for cloud right now. We cloud gather data about best practices from other sources.
 - Establish a decision-making risk catalog for considering risks.
 - Help to bridge the way for the federal agencies that have security concerns.
 - Encompassing portable/mobile environments. It is important, but we are focusing on fixed location hardware first. Review business use case, such as USAID, for mobile users.
 - Urgency for the work group. Need help from the participants.
 - FIPS 200 has a brief statement for the 17 security related areas and requires selection of controls based on the SP 800 53 baselines. Informational only.
- 2. The possible activities for the Security Work Group
 - Rewrite charter, FYI, NIST will do this. We will put out a new version in next week or two.
 - Relate the group's activity to the top 20 security concerns. Partition the group by different areas of security concerns.

- Write a security section for each of the business use cases from the Business Use Case Work
 Group. This is high priority. Participants are helping in writing the security section of the
 business use cases.
- Write a security section for the reference arch document from the Reference Architecture Work
 Group. There is going to be writing document soon. It is an opportunity for this work group to
 figure out what kind of contribution we can make to it from the security point of view. It is high
 priority.
- Create an inventory of security standards related to cloud computing. There three cloud specific standards are: OCCI, CDMI and OVF. We need to scrutinize the standards from the security point of view.
- Gathers a reading list to help new comers to read their ways to the security issues about the cloud. Request the members of the group send favorite reference to the mailing list.
- Stray thought: create an inventory of existing guest operating system hardening guidelines that seem to apply in a virtualized setting. Collect as guidance for laaS cloud providers/subscribers.
- 3. Questions/Answers/Comments from the work group.
 - The activities list is not prioritized.
 - Hardening guide is constantly changing. An organization / cloud provider should provide a library to provide pre-configured images.
 - The work group is changing direction. Feedbacks are welcomed from the participants.

Action Items